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COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Schweinrich Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 17 and 18 and 24 and 26 March 1954

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 21 April 1954

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. In the afternoon on 18 March 1954, troops stationed in the Rheinsberg-Zechow-Braunsberg area engaged in preparations for a departure toward Rheinsberg and Menz, with full-track prime movers towing one-axle guns of about 200-mm being observed there for the first time. On 18 March, the usual firing practices with tanks were held in the Rheinsberg-Zechow-Braunsberg area. Between 6 p.m. and 11:30 p.m., new units arrived in the Neu-Glienicke area on the road from Rheinsberg via Braunsberg and Schwanow. Vehicles observed included 40 prime movers towing guns of about 200-mm and 25 AT guns of about 80-mm, and 10 trucks towing 10 60-mm guns, presumably AA guns, on two-axle trailers. The movements were made almost exclusively after nightfall.

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2. in the late afternoon on 19 March, 8 trucks with women soldiers arrived at the training area from the direction of Rheinsberg and proceeded to Jagen (forest section) No 92.

3. On 19 March, the Neu-Glienicke area, from Wallitz-Steinberge and Frankendorf as far as Jagen No 207, was occupied to capacity by troops. Trench positions were under construction and tanks and guns were dug in. The staff was quartered in shelters.

The medical staff was located in Jagen No 90, Neu-Glienicke. Prior to the morning of 20 March, new troops kept arriving in the training area. At 8:30 a.m. on 20 March, the troops started an attack toward northwest, with tanks, SP guns and infantry forming the front line and artillery, AT guns, mortars, AA guns and rocket launchers following after a 15-minute fire. The rear was brought up by train units.

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5. Beginning at noon on 24 March, new units started arriving in Schweinrich from the direction of Steinberge. Vehicles [redacted] 32 armored personnel carriers with covered weapons, 18 armored personnel carriers towing four-barreled AA guns. [redacted]

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[redacted] and 50 trucks each occupied by about 25 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The unit went to the Hemmeistall area in Jagd Nos 115 through 120. At about 12:30 p.m. on 26 March, 12 BA-64 armored scout cars arrived in Neu-Glienicke from the direction of Neuruppin.

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Comment. The information continues previous reports [redacted] on the south-east section of the Schweinrich troop training grounds. [redacted] The arrival in this area on 17 March of units of the 94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div reinforced by corps and army troops had already been indicated in the reference report. Movements mentioned in paragraphs 1 through 4 are rather safely believed mainly to have involved units of the Third Shock Army, whereas the routine firing practice on 18 March is believed to have been held by units of the Second Gds Mech Army. The departure of troops from the Dranse, Wittstock, Pritzwalk and Kyritz railroad stations has repeatedly been reported. The troops which arrived by road on 24 March, belonged to the 10th Gds Tank Div [redacted] Compare with observations in Neuruppin on the same day by another source. [redacted] These units probably were to represent the enemy force in an exercise of the 6th Gds Mech Div which started in the Mirow area on 24 March.

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